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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/818,039	03/26/2001	Mitsuhiko Yoshimura	16869P016700	1354

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EXAMINER

PARDO, THUY N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2175

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2004

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

224

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/818,039	YOSHIMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thuy Pardo	2175	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's Amendment filed on April 065, 2004 in response to Examiner's Office Action has been reviewed. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 20, 24, 25, 27, and 29 have been amended.
2. Claims 1-30 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brodersen et al. (hereinafter "Brodersen") US Patent No. 6,266,669 in view of Haegele US Patent NO. 6,192,373.

As to claim 1, Brodersen teaches the invention substantially as claimed, comprising:
obtaining a first data item from a database table of a database system [obtains employee data from the employee table, col. 1, lines 30-35; 105 of fig. 3; col. 14, lines 41-47] in response

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to a query request [col. 1, lines 44-49; 33 of fig. 3; col. 8, lines 64 to col. 9, lines 2; col. 12, lines 33-35];

obtaining a second data item [obtains the position data from the position table, col. 1, lines 35-44] and said value in an updated log file of said database system [107 of fig. 3; col. 15, lines 1-11];

integrating said first and second data items into an integration result [“joining” these tables in response to a query from a user, col. 1, lines 43-49; col. 9, lines 36 to col. 10, lines 62];

returning said integration result to said query request [col. 1, lines 43-50; 131 of fig. 4];

wherein said second data item comprises information indicative of an update time of said first data item [col. 7, lines 30-38]; and

However, Brodersen does not explicitly teaches the second data item based on a value related to said first data item. Haegele teaches obtaining a second data item based on a value related to said first data item [ab; col. 2, lines 7-10, 20-26, 50-55].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to have modified the communication service system of Brodersen wherein a method for collecting and retrieving data in a database management system provided thereof would have incorporated the teachings of Haegele especially the methodology of retrieving records in the second table that reference the first given record in order to reduce the time of querying and increase the quality of retrieved results in the database management system.

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As to claim 2, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed. Brodersen further teaches that said second data item is obtained by translating said value according to a predetermined translation rule [predetermined rules, col. 2, lines 41-62].

As to claims 3-6, they are corresponding apparatus claims of claims 1 and 2 above; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale.

As to claim 7, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed, with exception of a program code. However, since the method is processed in the computer readable medium, the feature of having a program codes is inherently in the system in order to perform such functions and convert information from one form to another.

As to claim 8, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed as specified in claims 1 and 2 above. Brodersen further teaches modifying said second data item to a third data item using a predetermined business rule [col. 9, lines 7-20]; generating a virtual table comprising said first and third data items; and returning to said user an answer based on said virtual table [col. 9, lines 21-33].

As to claim 9, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed. Brodersen further teaches that said virtual table is discarded after said answer is returned to said user [inherent in the system].

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As to claim 10, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches that said predetermined business rule comprises an accounting time period [date and time, col. 7, lines 31-38].

As to claim 11, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches that the accounting time period is a fixed day in a month [date, col. 7, lines 31-38].

As to claim 12, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches that said predetermined business rule comprises a base time period [inherent in the system].

As to claim 13, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches that said predetermined business rule comprises a selected national calendar format for the day, month, and year [date and time, col. 7, lines 31-38].

As to claim 14, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches that said selected national calendar format is selected from a group consisting of a Japanese Calendar or a U.S. Calendar [inherent in the system, see date and time, col. 7, lines 31-38].

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As to claim 15, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches that said predetermined business rule comprises a table name [col. 7, lines 39-45].

As to claim 16, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches when said query request is for a plurality of databases, dividing said query request into a plurality of sub-requests, each sub-request directed to a database of said plurality of databases and receiving a record set of a plurality of record sets in response to said sub-request [inherent in the system, fig. 1].

As to claim 17, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches that said second data item comprises a timestamp for said first data item [col. 7, lines 30-38].

As to claim 18, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches that said virtual table is a view table [col. 7, lines 31 to col. 8, lines 57].

As to claim 19, Brodersen and Haegele teach the invention substantially as claimed.

Brodersen further teaches that said request is based on a search of said information in said updated log file [15, 19 of fig. 5].

As to claims 20-30, all limitations of these claims have been addressed in the analysis in claims 1-20 above, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant argues that Brodersen does not show the feature of integrating said first and second data items into an integration result of said query request.

As to point this point, Examiner respectfully disagrees. Examiner believes that this feature was taught by Brodersen. Brodersen teaches retrieving data from the employee table and the position table and joining these tables in response to a query from a user [see col. 1, lines 30-50].

Applicant argues neither Brodersen nor Haegele teaches obtaining a second data item from an updated log file of said database system based on a value related to said first data item. As to point this point, Examiner respectfully disagrees. Examiner believes that this feature was a combination of teachings by Brodersen and Haegele. Brodersen teaches retrieving data from the employee table and the position table [see col. 1, lines 30-50]. Brodersen further teaches downloading data from an updated log file to a central merge processor where a merge processing is being performed [see fig. 1, 4; col. 9, lines 36 to col. 7, lines 62]. However, Brodersen does not explicitly teaches the second data item based on a value related to said first data item. Examiner believes that Haegele compensates Brodersen's deficiency by teaching obtaining a second data item based on a value related to said first data item [ab; col. 2, lines 7-10, 20-26, 50-55].

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5. Applicant's arguments filed on April 05, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Pardo, whose telephone number is (703) 305-1091. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici, can be reached at (703) 305-3830.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

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(703) 872-9306 (Official Communication)

and/or:

(703) 746-5616 (*Use this Fax#, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "Draft" communication. Examiner may request that a formal/amendment be faxed directly to then on occasions*).

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

8. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

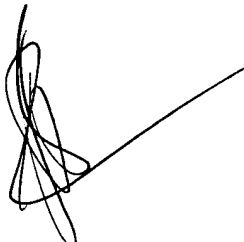
(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 308-5359, (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121

Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).



June 22, 2004

**THUY N. PARDO
PRIMARY EXAMINER**